External debts

702. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to pre-pay high interest external debts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, how much interest will be saved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to repay pre-maturely high cost loans from ADB and IBRD. ADB loans amounting to US Dollar 1158 million and IBRD loans amounting to US Dollar 1688 millions would be pre-paid during the current financial year.

(c) The savings to Government of India on prepayment of external debt are estimated based on discounted value of debt servicing, at Rs. 2565 crores approximately.

M.H. Kania Committee on demutualisation of Stock Exchanges

703. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the M.H. Kania Committee on Corporatisation and demutualisation of Stock Exchanges has recommended the abolition of regional stock exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith other recommendations;

(c) whether the Government have examined these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The Kania Committee has noted that the concept of regional stock exchange, which was introduced in the days of manual trading and open outcry system to encourage mobilization of resources and development